

**REPRESENTATION OF URBAN AMERICAN WOMEN IN *SEX AND  
THE CITY SERIES* : A POSTFEMINIST STUDY**

**THESIS**

**Submitted to**

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**As a Partial Fulfillment to get the**

**Master Degree of Language Studies**



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## MOTTO

- "... truly my prayer and my service of sacrifice, my life and my death, are (all) for God, the Cherisher of the worlds."  
(QS. Al An'am : 162)
- "If you can dream it, you can do it!"  
(Walt Disney)
- Tuhan akan selalu memberikan akhir yang baik. Maka jika ada suatu hal yang belum baik, maka itu bukanlah sebuah akhir.

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She realizes that this thesis is far from being perfect because of her limited capability. Thus, revision, suggestion, and criticism are welcome for the perfection of this work. She wishes this research paper would be useful and helpful to prospective readers.

Surakarta, October 2012

Ela

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## ABSTRACT

**NUR LAILA ABAS. S200090010. THE REPRESENTATION OF URBAN AMERICAN WOMEN IN *SEX AND THE CITY* SERIES: A POSTFEMINIST STUDY. THESIS. MUHAMMADIYAH UNIVERSITY OF SURAKARTA. 2012.**

This research is aimed to show representation of Urban American Women presentation in *Sex and the City* series based on the postfeminist perspective. This research is done by establishing three intentions, the first is analyzing how Urban American women is represented, the second is analyzing the dominant ideology by using representation theory and the third is analyzing the construction of womanhood by using postfeminism theory .

The study is a qualitative study. Type of data of the study is literary taken from two data sources: primary and secondary. The primary data sources taken from *Sex and the City Series* directed by Michael Patrick King and released in 1998. While the secondary data sources are materials taken from books and internet related to the study. Both data are collected through library research and analyzed by descriptive analyses.

The study comes to the following conclusions. Based on the discussion of text and context the conclusion is *Sex and the City* is a romantic comedy television series which concern in the sexuality, sexually transmitted disease, fashion, and friendship, mostly through the conversation and voice over narration of four single New York women. Then, from the discussion of representation *Sex and the City* portray the urban American women in dealing with their single life, their lifestyle, their choice of fashion and their existence. The last from the discussion of the construction of womanhood it can be concluded that many feminist issues are tackled in the show, such as gender-bias, limited constructions of femininity, dependency, and prejudice against single women. From those conclusions are suitable the characteristic of postfeminist such as the modernity of the women, aggressiveness, sisterhood, sexual empowerment, power, self awareness, and choices. Therefore the researcher finds a dominant ideology that appears in *Sex and the City* series. It is the ideals of female subjectivity present in postfeminism, these ideals not only develop the belief but demand it as an indicator of success that women can be independent and successful individuals.

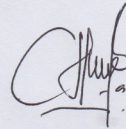
Keywords: representation, postfeminist, ideology, cultural studies.



### TESTIMONY

I hereby assert that there is no plagiarism in this thesis. There is no other work that has been submitted to obtain the master degree and as far as I am concerned there is no opinion that has been written or published before, except the written references which are referred in this paper and mentioned in the bibliography. If any incorrectness is proved in the future dealing with my statement above, I will be fully responsible.

Surakarta, November 2012



Ela



**ADVISOR APPROVED**

**URBAN AMERICAN WOMEN REPRESENTATION IN SEX  
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Prepared by

**NUR LAILA ABAS**

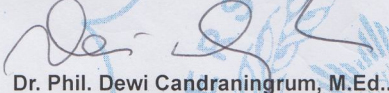
this thesis has been examined by the board of examiner on

September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2012

and has been declared eligible

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